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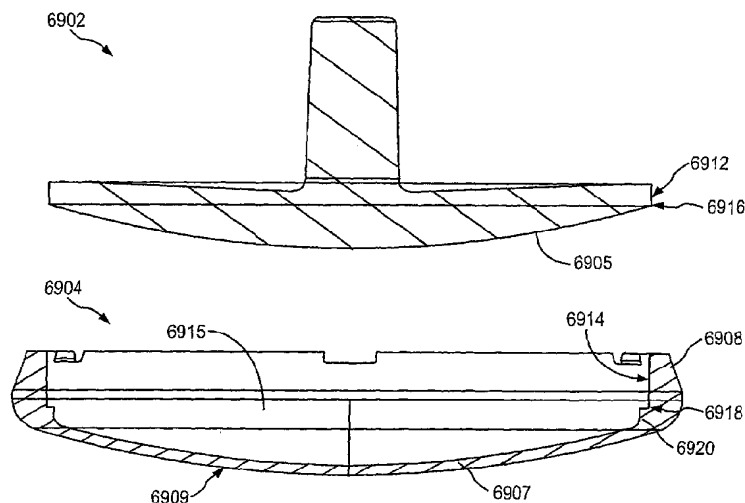
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(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR JOINT RESURFACE REPAIR



(57) Abstract: An implant for installation into a portion of an articular surface includes an implant shell component having a proximal load bearing wall with an outer proximal load bearing surface. A peripheral rim extending distally relative to the load bearing wall may provide a bone-facing distal pocket on the shell component. An inner implant component may be received in the bone-facing distal pocket of the implant such that a proximal surface of the inner component is spaced apart from a distal surface of the load bearing wall. The contour of the load bearing surface may be based on an original surface contour of an articular surface, and the load bearing wall of the shell component may be a deflectable wall, so that the load bearing surface can deflect under an applied load. The space between the load bearing wall and the inner implant may include a compressible fluid such as elastomeric gels.



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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(7) : A61F 2/38 US CL : 623/20.14 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC																							
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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Category *</th> <th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th> <th>Relevant to claim No.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>X</td> <td>US 5,019,104 A (WHITESIDE ET AL) 28 MAY 1991 (28.05.1991), see entire document.</td> <td>1-21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>X</td> <td>US 5,383,937 A (MIKHAIL) 24 JANUARY 1995 (24.01.1995), see entire document.</td> <td>1-21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>X</td> <td>US 5,702,467 A (GABRIEL ET AL) 30 DECEMBER 1997 (30.12.1997), see entire document.</td> <td>1-21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>X</td> <td>US 5,480,443 A (ELIAS) 02 JANUARY 1996 (02.01.1996), see entire document.</td> <td>1-21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>X</td> <td>US 6,315,798 B1 (ASHBY ET AL) 13 NOVEMBER 2001 (13.11.2001), see entire document.</td> <td>1-21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>X</td> <td>US 5,702,465 A (BURKINSHAW) 30 DECEMBER 1997 (30.12.1997), see entire document.</td> <td>1-21</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.	X	US 5,019,104 A (WHITESIDE ET AL) 28 MAY 1991 (28.05.1991), see entire document.	1-21	X	US 5,383,937 A (MIKHAIL) 24 JANUARY 1995 (24.01.1995), see entire document.	1-21	X	US 5,702,467 A (GABRIEL ET AL) 30 DECEMBER 1997 (30.12.1997), see entire document.	1-21	X	US 5,480,443 A (ELIAS) 02 JANUARY 1996 (02.01.1996), see entire document.	1-21	X	US 6,315,798 B1 (ASHBY ET AL) 13 NOVEMBER 2001 (13.11.2001), see entire document.	1-21	X	US 5,702,465 A (BURKINSHAW) 30 DECEMBER 1997 (30.12.1997), see entire document.	1-21
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230		Authorized officer Linda J Sholl <i>L. Hurley</i> Telephone No. (703) 308-0861																					